



**Budget Committee Meeting Minutes
Tuesday, January 11th 2022 at 7:00 p.m.
Meeting Held by Zoom Video Conference**

Committee Members Present: Alfred Ajami, Alex Beaudet, Rob Davidson, Paul DiMauro, Sandra Guibord, Charles Hanson, Kelly Harvell, Paul Leeman III, Harry "Terry" Lowd, Mary Piasecki and Patricia Porter.

Apologies for absence: Karl McLetchie

Representatives of Service Organizations: Joe Rose, James Borman (CLC Ambulance); Claire Sommer, David Svens (LCTV); Gerald Queally (Spectrum); Pam Sperry (Adult Ed); Joan LeMole (New Hope); Carol Jaeger (Bristol Library).

Also present: Chad Hanna (Selectboard Chair), Kristine Poland (Selectboard), Christopher Hall (Town Administrator), Ted Cox, Sandra Lucore, Dorsey Kleitz.

Quorum present (8 or more members); voting capacity 11 members present.

The meeting was called to order by Chair Terry Lowd at 7:01 p.m.

Procedural matters:

Minutes from December 21 not having been circulated, it was agreed to defer approval of these to the next meeting.

Central Lincoln County Ambulance:

There was extensive discussion of the need to significantly increase CLCA wages, and the intent to ask the Town to vote on a new Inter-Local Agreement for governance of the agency at the forthcoming Town Meeting.

Beaudet asked whether if it is appropriate to hold votes on requests tonight, when the Select Board have not voted their approval of these items, and when the representatives of the Service Agencies are present. In discussion, it was noted that in past pre-Covid years, votes have always been taken on the night, and with the presence of the public. For the Select Board, Chad Hanna stressed that the Budget Committee is an independent body and should express itself without reference to the Select Board's recommendation.

It was moved by Ajami, seconded by Davidson, to vote on each request this night. A roll call vote approved the motion by 10 votes in favor to 1 opposed.

It was moved by Hanson, seconded by Davidson, to recommend \$183, 979.50 as requested. There was discussion as to whether a Zoom poll could be used for voting, and it was agreed that this could not be limited to Committee members so that a roll call was needed. The Chair called for a roll call vote which affirmed the recommendation by 11 votes to 0.

Bristol Area Library: Moved by Hanson, seconded by Davidson, to recommend \$14,500 for the Bristol Area Library as requested. Following questions to Carol Jaeger, a roll call vote was taken and the motion passed, 11 votes to 0.

Central Lincoln County Adult Education: It was moved by Hanson, seconded by Davidson, to recommend \$10,371.18 as requested. After brief discussion the chair called a roll call vote and the motion passed, 11 votes to none.

ElderCare Network: It was proposed by Hanson, seconded by Davidson, to recommend the sum of \$7,500 requested by ElderCare Network of Lincoln County. It was noted that two of the organization's seven homes have closed in the last two years but Round Pond Green continues to serve the Bristol area. On a roll call vote the motion passed, 10 votes to 0, with one abstention.

Healthy Kids: Hanson proposed, seconded by Davidson, that the sum of \$2,000 be recommended, an increase from the \$1,200 requested by the organization. Following discussion, a roll call vote was ordered by the chair and the motion passed by 10 votes to 0, with one abstention.

Life Flight of Maine: It was moved by Ajami, seconded by Hanson, to recommend approval of the amount requested, \$1,500.00. On a roll call vote the motion carried, 11 votes to 0.

Lincoln County Television: There was a brief discussion of how many other towns contribute to LCTV, and whether if Bristol Parks is featured in LCTV programming it should be considered advertising to be funded by Parks. A motion to recommend the requested \$15,000 was proposed by Hanson, seconded by Porter, and passed on a roll call vote, by 10 votes to 0 with one abstention.

New Hope (formerly New Hope for Women): It was moved by Hanson, seconded by Harvell, to recommend the sum of \$2,000.00 requested by the organization. The chair calling for a roll call, the motion passed by 11 votes to 0.

Spectrum Generations: It was moved by Hanson, seconded by Davidson, to recommend the requested sum of \$7,000. A roll call being ordered, the motion passed, 11 votes to 0.

Hall asked whether the Committee was satisfied with the experience of a Zoom call. Numerous members expressed their preference for in-person meeting, though there were comments that the Zoom call had worked sufficiently well. It was agreed that in the light of the rapid spread of Covid a decision on whether to meet on February 7 and 8 in person or by Zoom would be made not later than January 25, in time for public notice to be given of the arrangements.

There being no further business, the meeting adjourned at 9:01pm.

Respectfully submitted,
Chris Hall
Town Administrator